

Joanne Lockner Country Visions

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Renata Hesse
Trial Attorney
Anti-trust Division
US Department of Justice
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530

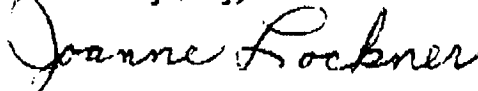
Dear Ms. Hesse:

My comments are offered here to show my support for the settlement recently obtained between the Justice Department and the Microsoft Corporation. I support this settlement because it will bring an end to a case which has remained in the courts long enough to resolve the relevant issues involved.

Beyond the issues, however, I strongly encourage this settlement because it will surely bring a better quality education to children who need the most help in South Dakota and elsewhere. I have served as a State Representative in central South Dakota where there are school districts in farming and ranching communities which are considered remote and low income. Presently, the state is expanding its efforts to improve the quality and availability of long distance learning. I know there are plenty of rural school districts which need competent computer systems to take advantage of the Internet and the state's educational efforts. As an artist who supports the Artists in Schools Program, I am excited by the possibilities of helping more children enhance their lifestyles through the arts via the Internet.

Thank you so much for allowing my comments to be considered. I think the settlement is a healthy step forward for children and for justice.

Yours very truly,



Joanne Lockner